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Such work, while showing upon the surface little evidence of the labor needed for its performance, will be of the greatest assistance to future workers in untangling the difficult web presented by the Australian Musci. A list of references, publications consulted, abbreviations, and a generic index add greatly to the convenience of the work. It is to be hoped that the authors may be able to complete their undertaking by issuing a list of the pleurocarpous mosses.

EDWARD B. CHAMBERLAIN.

POGONATUM TENUE.

B. F. BUSH.

While exploring a deep, moist, shady ravine on the high bluff of the Missouri river, at Sibley, Missouri, on October 10, 1906, I noticed near the bottom of the ravine on the opposite side, a stratum of hard, reddish-yellow sand, which appeared to be covered at one place with a deep green scum. Jumping down in the bottom of the ravine, I was very much surprised and pleased to see that the green scum was the prothallium of *Pogonatum tenue* (Menz.) Britton, which was now fruiting abundantly.

The bluff at this place is at least three hundred feet above the river, and about one thousand feet above the Gulf of Mexico, and the stratum of sand in the ravine is about two hundred and fifty feet below the top of the bluff.

This is the second time I have collected this species in Missouri, the other being at Pleasant Grove, Ripley County, in Southeastern Missouri, in precisely the same sort of situation on a sand stratum at about four hundred feet elevation.

The only other time I collected this species was at Spring Hill, Alabama, in a deep ravine back of the hotel, in exactly the same sort of situation, on a stratum of sand, in a deep ravine, about two hundred feet above the Gulf of Mexico.

NOTE ON CATHARINEA ROSULATA.

T. C. FRYE.

An examination of type material, that is, material collected by type collector at type locality and date, indicates that *Catharinea rosulata* (C. M. & K.) (*Atrichum rosulatum* C. M. & K.) described in Macoun's Catalogue of Canadian Plants, Part VI., p. 148, 1892, is simply *Catharinea Selwyni* (Aust.) Kindb. (*Atrichum Selwyni* Aust.). The short stem ascribed to *C. rosulata* is often found in *C. Selwyni*, and in such cases the leaves are rosulate since they cannot be well otherwise, thus agreeing with *C. rosulata*. The leaves in two plants agree in the undulation, dentation, areolation, form, their scales at the back, and the height and number of their lamellae. *C. rosulata* is said to have a leaf which is not margined, but in the material examined they are margined in their upper part where they are dentate. It agrees in this with *C. Selwyni* in which some of the leaves are margined to the base, others to the middle, and very young ones not at all. Thickened margins in young leaves would interfere with the normal development of the

leaf, since cells with thick walls rarely divide or enlarge. The leaves of corresponding ages in *C. rosulata* and *C. Selwyni* are margined the same. I feel sure no one could separate type *C. rosulata* from my authentic *C. Selwyni* if I were to mix them.

University of Washington, Seattle.

March 15, 1907.

CLIMACIUM AMERICANUM IN DECORATION.

A. BRUCE JACKSON.

Until recently I was unaware that *Climacium Americanum* had any decorative value. It is, however, frequently used by English florists for wreaths and crosses, the dendroid stems being tied in bunches with a pleasing effect. The much to be regretted practice of dyeing, which is as usual resorted to, will not however commend itself to a bryologist. A Newbury florist tells me that *Climacium* comes to him from the Oriental dealers in a dried condition and is called "Resurrection Moss," a name given I suppose because it has the property with other mosses of expanding when moistened. Two bunches of the moss colored, one olive-green and the other a hideous dark red, are before me as I write. A friend sent me two or three years ago specimens of species obtained from the same shop, and on one of these there are two capsules, a somewhat rare condition. As five shillings is charged for a cross made up solely of this moss, its commercial value must be considerable. I am indebted to Mr. H. N. Dixon for the identification.

Newbury, England.

WEBERA SESSILIS AND ANTS.

CHARLES C. PLITT.

A year ago, I learned that ants were very fond of the spores of *Webera sessilis* (Schmid.) Lindb. Finding a pretty specimen of this interesting little moss, I brought it home. Not being able to put specimen away as soon as I reached home, it was left over night in the vasculum; in fact, it was several days, before I again got the time to examine the specimen. What was my surprise to find it over-run with ants! Examining the specimen I found that a piece had been gnawed out of the side of nearly every one of the capsules and that the spores had been removed. Every body familiar with this moss, with its large capsules, readily sees what an especially fine inducement it offers for such a depredation.

This at once raised the question, whether such depredations ever occur in a state of nature. I was almost convinced that such do occur, but it was only recently that I found further proof that they actually do occur. On one of my trips during the early part of the present month (Oct. 1906), I came upon a pretty little patch of the *Webera*. Taking up a small portion of it, I saw that it was immediately over an ant's nest. I at once examined the capsules and found them gnawed, just as I found that the ants last year had gnawed the capsules of the plants left in the vasculum.

That this moss is thus pilfered at times, seems pretty evident. It would